

# The Black Mirror News

## Reflections


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Vol. 3 - NO. 2 • February 1, 1998

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- ★ *A look at Polly Ticks*
  - ★ *What's wrong with our kids?*
  - ★ *Help Wanted ads get results!*
  - ★ *Emeralds & Ivory Cotillion Photos*

# QUEEN LATIFAH

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NEW JERSEY EDITION

**BLACK MIRROR NEWS***True stories that aren't in the dailies*

Address all Editorial and Advertising Correspondence to:

**THE BLACK MIRROR NEWS**

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**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!** We'll mail you all the social and nightlife news about black folks from all over the tri-state area. Check out the story behind the story - true stories that aren't in the dailies.

**OPINON...**

By LORRAINE LAVENDER

*On a recent visit to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) for a performance of the Harlem Nutcracker, I was struck by the inordinate amount of noise and disturbances caused by some of the youngsters attending the performance and the lack of attention toward their behavior by the accompanying adults.]*

**Q. What's wrong with our kids?**

**A. The same thing that's wrong with some adults:  
LACK OF DISCIPLINE!**

Where does discipline start? It is an absolute fact that discipline begins at home.

Children's atrocious behavior in public places is by and large due to the negligence of home training on the finer graces of deportment. Not beating it into their heads.

Churches were a great source of discipline for both children and adults. In the "old days" parents worked a whole lot harder and longer than they do now but on Sunday morning children went to Sunday School and after Sunday School, attended church service with their parents.

Church was where children learned to sit quietly, respect their elders, and listen. This early education is rarely thought of as such in this day and age, when sleeping late on Sundays, like we think rich folks do, is looked forward to, while the little ones run wild.

When adults realized that they would not be struck dead if they did not physically attend church, they stopped going. Forgetting what the church contributed to the stability of the family. The church has always been and is still of great help with getting youth and adults on the right track.

What happened to teaching children the proper way to act in public and correct eating habits? These lessons are learned. Children cannot be left to their own devices and expected to be able to function properly. Train up a child in the way he is to go and when he is old he will not depart from it. Parents have the greatest responsibility for the training of the children. Church is not the only answer, but it is a start in the right direction.

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# POLLY TICKS...



**ESSEX COUNTY** – Essex Freeholder VP Oliver renewed her call for rotated board presidency. Sheila Oliver said she is “moving forward” in seeking the presidency of the 9-member Essex County Board of Freeholders by lobbying the votes of her colleagues and by amassing support in the various county communities.

She renewed her vow “to continue to debate the issue of rotation and other concerns”. Ms. Oliver once again cited the commitment made last year by the incumbent board president to rotate the top leadership position.

“Rotation of the Freeholder Board presidency has now become a question of fairness,” said Oliver, adding, “for Mr. DiVincenzo to seek a fourth term when no one else (currently on the Board) has had a chance to serve even one shows a disregard for the promotion of diversity and suggests that he is the only Freeholder capable of doing the job.”

To guarantee that leadership positions are open to all, Oliver again said she would favor an amendment to the Administrative Code limiting the

presidency to no more than two consecutive one-year terms.

**NEWARK**– Councilwoman Mildred C. Crump announced for Mayor of Newark, New Jersey. She promised to bring about a “real” change. Citing her many contributions to the city such as the construction of new housing through her work as president of the Board of Directors with Habitat For Humanity; founder of the Newark Women's Conference, an organization that has distributed information to over three thousand women of all ages and background regarding the physical abuse they were experiencing in their lives, helping them find ways to escape through self-empowerment and agency assistance.

Citing her vision for Newark on crime, jobs and business opportunity, senior citizens, disabled citizens and education, she said she would make government work for people and business by streamlining the bureaucracy to not obstruct.

Ms. Crump called for regular community meetings. She believes “enough is enough,” as she declared her candidacy.

## Polly Ticks... Ticks... Ticks... are you watching...



**MAYOR  
SHARPE JAMES**  
Incumbent  
Mayor of Newark

**ARE YOU  
REGISTERED  
TO VOTE ON  
MAY 12<sup>th</sup>?**



**COUNCILWOMAN  
MILDRED CRUMP**  
Candidate for Mayor  
of Newark, NJ

**ARE YOU  
REGISTERED  
TO VOTE ON  
MAY 12<sup>th</sup>?**



**KENNETH A. GIBSON**  
candidate for  
Essex County Executive

**ARE YOU REGISTERED  
TO VOTE ON  
JUNE 28<sup>th</sup>?**



**COUNCILMAN  
RONALD RICE**  
Candidate for Mayor  
of Newark, NJ



**Hearty congrats! Azizah P. Yasin a recent graduate with a Juris Doctor degree, is currently employed with the Cambridge, Massachusetts District Attorney office.**

## Help Wanted

**SECRETARY** - Busy government department seeks entry level secretary with excellent typing skills (60+) and short hand. Person must be well organized, able to work well under pressure and have computer knowledge. Send resume to: **The Black Mirror News, P.O. Box 1480, Newark, New Jersey 07101**

**SECRETARY** - Experienced secretary (10 years plus) for a busy government department. Computer skills needed along with typing (60+) and short hand. Person must be well organized, able to work well under pressure, provide administrative and clerical assistance of a highly complex nature, produce documents informs of agendas, minutes, transcripts, etc. Legal experience a plus. Send resume to: **The Black Mirror News, P.O. Box 1480, Newark, New Jersey 07101.**

Send a self-addressed business-size envelope to **NEW JERSEY HIGHWAY AUTHORITY, P.O. Box 5050, Woodbridge, NJ 07095-5050. Contact: Ollie M. Davis, Manager, Affirmative Action/Diversity Programs, (908) 293-1157, Fax (908) 293-1200.**

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The late, great Alvin Ailey (center) and NJN's *Due Process* coordinating field producer Henrietta S. Parker (right).

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# FALLING LEAVES

## THADFORD W. KETTLES

*Newark youth advocate.* Mr. Kettles was a past president of the Concerned Citizens of the Central Ward, a member of the Essex County Youth Board, and co-founded the first teen council of Newark's Central Ward. His activism also included two unsuccessful political bids, one for city council in 1985 and another for the city school board in 1994.

## HELEN DAVIS REID

*Head Start director.* Mrs. Reid was involved with the Friendly Fuld Neighborhood Center in Newark for 49 years, where she directed the Head Start program.

## FRED R. FARINA

*Business manager of Carpenter's Union Local 1342.* He was also president of the Essex County Building Trades Union. He served on the Essex County Planning Board from 1987-1990 and was a direct board member of the State Council of Carpenters in Edison.

## JULIE CARRINO

*Mother to Councilman Anthony Carrino.*

**MRS. ERNESTINE RICHARDSON**, 73, of Newark.

Employed by the Newark Housing Authority for 27 years before her retirement.

**MR. CLINTON O. WILLIAMS**, 81, of East Orange.

War hero, therapist at the University of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark for 47 years before retiring.

**MR. JOHN REYNOLDS SR.**, of Newark, a retired construction union foreman and city political activist.

**MR. ARTHUR HOOPER** of Newark, taught for over 30 years in the Newark School system. He was a principal at Alexander Street School until his recent retirement. Mr. Hooper was also familiar to many Newarkers as the owner of Hoop's Place on Springfield Avenue.

**MRS. IZETTA HILL MCDUFFY** of Jersey City. She was a member and founder of The Human & Civil Rights Association of New Jersey.

**MRS. GLADYS HILLMAN-JONES**, of South Orange, Executive director of St. James Preparatory School in Newark. Previously she had been a teacher, vice principal, principal, assistant superintendent and deputy executive superintendent for the Newark School District.

**QUEEN ELIZABETH JAMES** of Newark. She was 73. Affectionately known as "Queenie," she was active in politics, working for the Gibson administration for 16 years and serving as a Democratic County Committee leader in the South Ward for 25 years.

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## Bouquets and applause for the debutantes at "Emeralds and Ivory" cotillion in Newark.

The cotillion, held recently for 24 girls at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, was an outstanding success. The Essex County Links, sponsored the event. Kudos to everyone.

*photos reprinted from the Star Ledger by Noah Addis*



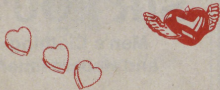
The Emerald Princess,  
Ms. Hillary Alicia Hawkins  
of West Orange.



The traditional dance with their fathers during  
the "Emerald and Ivory" cotillion at NJPAC.



Debutantes Deneene Bernard of Montclair,  
left, and Danielle Joye Baynes of Berkeley  
Heights chatting before the ball.



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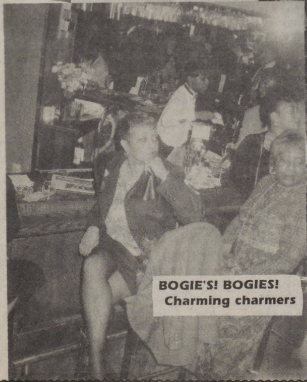
A star at the  
Symphony  
Hall...



Here's Pat!  
She's the secretary  
of the Essex  
County Dems...



TOP BRASS, at the Robert Treat Hotel- it was  
Bud Night recently with the Miss Bud herself,  
and smiles all around...



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# AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS...

Skeets Johnson and Ron McLaurin celebrated their B-Day recently at the Top Brass. Note: the two-foot by three foot cake came from the **Broad Street Bakery Inc.** hmmm... good (smiles)... One of the sharpest councilmen's wives is **Mrs. Joyce Branch...** Rev. Rountree and his dream team project, supported by **James Taylor...** Hair to Hair, the place owned by **Jan Williams** on Hill Street is still a top beauty shop... "Dog," the auto detailer - call his beeper #510-4966... Folks are still talking about the calendar that **Barbara Kukla** that *Star Ledger* reporter created for the late **Connie Williams Woodruff**. It's something when folks remember you when you're alive, but it's a greater respect after you're deceased. That's a real friend... **Robyn Hillary Jackson** celebrated her B-day this month... **Ivery Sherman**, one of the best cabinet makers in New Jersey is also an accomplished trumpet player with the **Black Widow Band...** **Betty Ayala McGovern**, who is one of the **Maria Henedey** sisters looking great with her husband at the Brass Rail... **Freddie Robinson** of Paterson, NJ is an administrative assist. sales manager for the "Sweet Potato Pie, Inc." the best around in the state of NJ... Young soul singer **Usher Raymond** "You Make Me Wanna" is No. 2 behind Elton John's tribute to Princess Diana. LaFace Records... **Ruth Jones**, one of the glamorous ladies of my day, still looking great, saw her at Long John's wake... *Sick List:* Sorry to hear of **Skeets Leonard Johnson's** wife having eye surgery... Send your cards to **Fred Stalks**, on his recent leg amputation operation... **Marlo's - Peaches** and **Christy** certainly know how to party with **Acquilla** on their day out- smiles.

CUT OUT AND MAIL

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# IT'S IN THE STARS



By ADA



## ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Take up your baton and display your talent for pioneering new beginnings, but get help with bringing it all together.

## TAURUS APRIL 21-MAY 22

It's your nature to keep things in check, but once you have gathered the facts and considered your options, get on with it.

## GEMINI MAY 23-JUNE 21

The New Year brings new vistas. Find the place where you can be free to show your real self. Punching a clock is not where it's at.

## CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22

Although you love to roam free, don't neglect your home base. You are really a "home body" at heart. Burning the candles at both ends is fun but it's not safe.

## LEO JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Still following someone else's orders? Break out of that frustrating situation. Put your wonderful organizing skills to work and you'll be much happier.

## VIRGO AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Continue to trust your judgement. However, being a leader makes you uncomfortable because it is not

your role. You are the person who keeps the leaders straight.

## LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

Your "Scales of Justice" sign enables you to work well with other people. Keep smoothing the way in your fair and compassionate manner.

## SCORPIO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

You know that knowledge is power and you will find success. Keep seeking solutions and implementing them.

## SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 22

Changes are as much as part of you as your idealism. You are prone to chase "impossible dreams" and it's O.K. to take some chances but don't get lost.

## CAPRICORNUS DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 20

Stick to what you know. Experience is your main asset. Use it to your advantage. Your success depends on referring to your many life experiences.

## AQUARIUS JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 19

It's your way or no way, so self-employment is probably your best bet. You know some great new ways to do some old chores.

## PISCES FEBRUARY 20-MARCH 20

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## OUR COVER STORY -

# PROFILE OF A QUEEN

**QUEEN LATIFAH.** Rapper, Entrepreneur, Artist Manager, Record Label President, film Actress, Star of her own TV show.

The Queen is all of that and even more.

"Music will always be the closet to my hear," says Latifah, "that's where I started and that's where I learned the most."

Queen Latifah's accomplishments to date have the power to drop jaws in awe, but she maintains that she is the same Jersey girl she started out as. She is aware that she has been "blessed with a bunch of talent," and says the secret of her success is simple. "I'm true to myself and I always try to do the right things. I've always said my prayers and they're been reciprocated.

Recently profiled in *Essence Magazine* (Jan. '98), Latifah listed a number of projects forthcoming for 1998, such as appearing with Oscar winners and nominees: director Barry Levinson and actors Dustin Hoffman, Samuel L. Jackson and Sharon Stone. Soon to costar as a blues singer in *The Kiss*, opposite Academy Award winner Holly Hunter and Danny Devito costarring in the just-released film, *Sphere* a sci-fi thriller.

*Essence* asked her how she felt about Black folks' love for and support of her TV Show 'Living Single'? Queen Latifah said "she would like to thank everyone who put in the effort [to tell Fox how they felt], because we don't do that enough. I felt like it was total disrespect to take the show off the air when it was doing well. You have to pay a certain amount of respect to people who are making you a lot of money and bringing a lot of attention to your network. Fox needed to think about that. I'm glad they gave us another 13 episodes to give to the people.

She expects a new album (not yet titled) early this year, and is looking forward to a book on self-esteem, tentatively titled *From the Heart of a Queen*, in the fall. The ever-wise and precocious Queen Latifah has demonstrated her strength in a way that will put her in the history books as being at the forefront of her generation's leading women. Her constant positivity and commitment to excellence and growth make her an example for all people: female, male, black, white, young and old.

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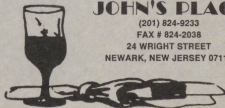
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THE



## SHADOW KNOWS...

I wish Mrs. H.R. on South Twelfth St., in Newark would learn to mind her business. She is the street gossip queen. She talks about everybody but herself and their is one young lady on her block that told me "if she keeps on talking about her, she's going to put her lights out". Queenie says her children can do no wrong, she thinks her old man is a saint, and she thinks she looks good. Boy, is she in for a big surprise when the truth is known... Life on the streets is tough these days. It's so hard to make a living if you're working, it's tough and if you're not working - it's worse, because the people you're trying to rip off don't have a damn thing either... You ask somebody for a cigarette and they say they don't smoke or they carry their smokes in their socks, so you can't see them. Now that cigarettes have gone up to almost three dollars a pack, a 'lucy' will cost at least fifty cents each. Better quit!... the young brothers have lost it when it comes to their dress codes. I saw some walking down Springfield Ave. the other day that looked like a big bunch of oversized rags on their way to the laundromat... Why do the sisters think they look good with rainbow colors in their hair? And nails

that prevent them from living a normal life? (You can't pick up anything, and you look deformed when you try) and another thing, I can't handle is those awful looking platform shoes, but then again what do I know, I invested in a company that makes belts and lost my shirt and my belt... The Shadow is so gland that the gangsta rap is finally dying out, now I'm beginning to hear love songs on the radio instead of "hit that bitch with a bat"... Women seem to be having trouble find me these days, they can't find good man or a bad one. Well, I'll tell you why - many of the brothers are *inside the walls* looking out, many of the brothers are so strung out they don't know what a woman is and the rest of them are more interested in *your brother* then they are in you... As a result, more women are finding each other more interesting every day... The Shadow has noticed that the young brother on Munn Ave. in East Orange has decided to be a man and take care of his responsibilities at last. I see he's now throwing a few dollars to his baby's mother every now and then. I know it's not a lot, but in her shape every penny helps. You should give her more money because I know how you earn your dollars. Perhaps you could give her one or two of the outrageous payments you're making on your 'leased' ride. Your child should be just as important as your Lexus... And fellas, wake up, because more and more of the

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sisters are going to Essex County court, filing for non-support and it will be very hard for you to duck if you stay in this area... The Shadow has a prediction to make for this year. The national crime rate will continue to drop as the prisons expand and more and more hoodlums and thugs will be behind bars where they belong. As a result the crime rate drops, that makes sense., doesn't it?

Peace, I'm outa here!

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